

**Amendments to the Specification:**

After the title and before the first paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

THIS APPLICATION IS A U.S. NATIONAL PHASE APPLICATION OF PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PCT/JP2004/009768, filed July 2, 2004.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 5, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to another aspect of the invention, the electric dust collector ~~of claim 1~~ may include a guide rib provided on one of the holding unit and the high-voltage applying device so as to be parallel to a direction in which the filter unit is pulled out. A groove for accepting the guide rib is provided in the filter unit. The groove reaches substantially a center of the filter unit. This structure allows the filter unit to be smoothly removed without torsion, preventing the filter from being removed with torsion.